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The Rebel's Creed.

(By J. W. Roche.)

We ask not leave from priest or king,
For reason of the things that are;
Oh sun, or moon, or shining star,
Rich treasures from the deep we bring.

We want no gods or legends old
To guide us in the path of life;
We strike for Right and the strife,
We scorn for aye the Call of Gold.

We want no Book that clouds the mind,
The book of nature we shall read;
And reading will supply our need,
And all the needs of human kind.

We want no hovels, grim and bare,
That groan beneath the wintry blast;
We'll sink them in the rays of past,
And let them rot for ever there.

We want the strength, the joy of life,
The wiping out of foul disease;
For endless toil a blissful ease,
And lasting peace instead of strife.

We want the age-long curse destroyed
The rule of class, of king, or priest;
We want to crush order the Beast,
And cast his carcass to the void.

We want our children strong and brave,
To romp and the flowers dells;
No more to pine in sweaters' hells,
Or shuffle to a pauper's grave.

Then Rebels we will ever be
Until we break the galling chain;
And Freedom win for hand and brain,
No Rebels then we shall be Free.

The Passing Show.

An illusion of the modern "boss" is that
he is a leader of men. He is a driver of
slaves.

Capitalism has passed through two stages
of development: youth and maturity; and is
now in the third—its declining years. Soon
it will be dead and buried.

Deakin is the agent of big business. Fisher
is the agent of little business. Borden is
the Deakin of Canada; Laurier is the Fisher.
In England, Bonar Law stands for
Deakinism; Asquith and Ramsay-Macdonald
for Fisherism. Like economic conditions
produce like political, social, and moral effects
and ideas the world over.

Under Capitalism, the little thieves tear
the law; the big thieves laugh at laws, but
fear Socialism.

The wage worker is a slave. A slave who
would be free must strike for freedom. A
slave who strikes for freedom is a Socialist.
A slave who strikes for freedom, without
knowing that he is striking for Socialism,
strikes blindly, and often misses. Study So-
cialism, and strike intelligently.

It is not the brains of the masters that
keep the workers in awe. It is their bell-
toppers and frock coats. The primitive sa-
vages inspired awe by wearing bones and
scalps. Modern savages imitate him by
wearing distinctive clothes. You don't be-
lieve that? Then just explain why bishops
wear knee-breeches, shovel-hats, and aprons;
or capitalists, employers, and church deacons
wear frock coats and bell-toppers, when the
thermometer registers 120 degrees in the
shade.

The workers of Europe have voted for
years to keep their masters in power, with
the result that Britain is spending over
£10,000,000 a year on her navy, Germany
over £20,000,000, and the other states
slightly smaller amounts. The builders of
warships, and the manufacturers of war ma-
terial and armaments, benefit most from this
vast expenditure, and to keep it going the
firms spend huge sums in bribing officials and
persons high up in the public service. Gov-
ernments are powerless against them. On
November 10, 1910, the British Prime Min-
ister said, in a speech delivered at the Guild
Hall: "We all admit the evil. We all de-
plore it. Each country by itself is power-
less to arrest the progress of armaments. No
single country can reduce its expenditure,
and trust, even temporarily, for its own se-
curity—still more with us, the security of its
possessions throughout the length and
breadth of the world—to the forbearance of
a more powerful and vigilant neighbour. We
seem to be in a vicious circle." Into this
vicious circle Australia has plunged, and now
the agents are doing "good business" with
the Commonwealth Labor Party.



The Class Struggle.

The Capitalist press has had its holiday
season spoiled by a "bomb outrage" in India.
The Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, was slightly
wounded by a bomb thrown at him from the
roof of a building, while he was entering
Delhi in a gorgeous State procession. Col-
umns of grid-laden news have been publish-
ed of the Viceroy's injuries, miraculous es-
cape, marvellous coolness until he fainted,
rapid recovery and determination that the
procession should succeed, and orders that
the ceremony should be performed by a de-
puty-Viceroy. From the many yards of de-
scriptive toadyism, four words were note-
worthy—"An attendant was killed." Pro-
bably the death of the attendant was an-
nounced in those four words to bring more
vividly before readers minds the narrow es-
cape the Viceroy had. Of course, it didn't
matter about the attendant, so long as his
Lordship escaped. Attendants are very
cheap—as cheap as dirt.

"When beggars die, there are no comets
seen;
The heavens themselves blaze forth the
death of princes."

When the Newcastle Coal Strike was on,
some three years ago, the miners entered in-
to an arrangement with the owners of the
two mines, whereby the miners were to keep
the mines going. The profits were to be
divided between the miners and the Com-
pany, and the Strike Committee expected to
make £5000 a week, while the strike lasted.
This sum was to be used in supplying the
trikers and their families with the neces-
sities of life. The miners hewed the coal, and
filled the trucks, and asked the Railway Com-
missioner to haul it to the port, where it was
to be shipped to buyers. The Railway Com-
missioner, acting under instructions from the
Government, stole the trainloads of coal, and
refused to pay anything for it. The Govern-
ment soon after arrested the leaders of the
strike, jailed them, and broke the strike.
For these acts of despotic illegality, the
Wade Government were vigorously denounc-
ed by their Labor opponents, who routed
them at the elections, and took their places
in the Government departments. The miners
pressed for payment for their coal, but the
Labor Government turned an unsympathetic
ear to them for nearly three years, when, an
election coming rather dangerously near,
Ministers suddenly discovered that the min-
ers' claim was a just one, and decided to pay
them £1200 of what was owing. The Gov-
ernment, like the devil, is very penitent
when death threatens. When—

"The devil was sick, the devil a monk would
be;
The devil was well, the devil a monk was he."

Military despotism is growing rapidly.
Arrangements for the utilization of military
barracks as places of detention for those ca-
dets who are committed to custody for neg-
lecting to fulfil universal training, have been
completed. The Minister for Defence says
that action is to be taken under sub-section
7, of section 135 of the Defence Act,
against those senior cadets who, during the
year, have neglected to comply with the pro-
visions of the Act. The cadets committed
will be marched to the barracks and impris-
oned for the period ordered. The cadets
committed to custody will be furnished with
rations in barracks. They will be kept in
solitary confinement, no other person being

permitted to occupy the same room. There
will be a suitable guard to prevent escapes.
It is further announced that the citizen
forces camp will be held in March, and
trainees are warned that if they fail to put
in an appearance, military escorts can be sent
from Liverpool to compel them to attend.
The parades for those cadets who have just
been drafted into the militia are being very
sparsely attended, and stringent action is to
be taken. The authorities deny that the sys-
tem is conscription, but military barracks,
prison rations, solitary confinement, and mi-
litary escorts (press-gangs) are hard to de-
scribe by any other name.

The agent of a "Vice Trust," which, un-
der the protection of the police of New York,
operates in connection with the disorderly
houses of the city, is reported to have "given
the game away." One woman admits that
she kept a house for years, and that she paid
for "police protection," and, she added,
"We all do it." Under Capitalism every-
thing is trusted—even vice.

The delegate board of the Collieries Fed-
eration of New South Wales, has decided to
strike a voluntary levy of threepence per
member, to assist the president, D. Watson,
in his candidature for the Commonwealth
Senate. This seems to indicate that the de-
legates are still behind the Labor Party, and
are never likely to get much further than a
periodical duel between Goshin and Short.

An enormous anti-war demonstration was
held in Vienna in November. It was pre-
ceded by the distribution of 39,000 placards
inviting the public to take part. As the hall
only held about persons, a huge crowd assem-
bled outside, and demonstrated in the
streets. Similar demonstrations took place
at Berlin, Prague, and many other cities
and towns all over Europe. The Swiss So-
cialist Party held very successful mass meet-
ings at Berne, on November 3, and at Zurich
on November 6. Dr. Rakovski, Bulgar-
ian delegate to the Austrian Social Demo-
cratic Congress, addressed the Congress on
the subject of the Balkan war. He said that
the revolt in the Balkans was being led by
the Kings, each of whom was anxious to se-
cure his own throne, and that all the blood
would be spilled in vain as far as the people
were concerned.

A retired grazier of Wagga died recent-
ly, the net value of whose estate was sworn
at £67,497 1s. 8d. The workers who built
the pile of surplus value, lived on corned
meat and damper, and slept in hovels which
would not be tolerated in any town or city
sum in any part of the Commonwealth. Yet
when an Accommodation Bill was before Par-
liament, no interest was evinced in its pas-
sage, and it drifted into the waste paper bas-
ket. The workers on the stations vote Lib-
eral or Labor tickets, and live on "rations,"
while their masters bank the profits. The
men rear the sheep and shear them, but the
masters shear the shearers.

Representatives of Six Powers met last
week to consider an offer made privately to
the Chinese Government of a loan of
£25,000,000, for "reorganisation purposes."
The meeting agreed that the offer afforded a
suitable basis for negotiation. A curious

feature of this meeting is that the Powers re-
presented are all in debt themselves, and
have no money to lend, and, consequently,
were acting in the interests of international
Capitalists, who were finding the money.
The workers imagine that they make and
unmake Governments, but the Capitalists
work them.

British shipyards are very busy just now.
In addition to British battleships under
construction, ship-building firms are con-
structing warships for England, Turkey, Ja-
pan, Australia, Chili, and Brazil. The
agents of the ship-building firms have thor-
oughly scared the statesmen of the above
countries into placing orders, by simply tel-
ling them tales about each other. Dozens of
articles are appearing in Australian papers
written by hired scaremongers, who dilate
upon our unpreparedness for war with Ja-
pan, and in Japan a similar thing is hap-
pening, and the War Office is increasing the
naval and military expenditure in order that
the country may be prepared for any emer-
gency. According to the ship-builders
agents, the emergencies are very frequent.

A N.S.W. legislator, named Henley, has
made a unique discovery. He has found
out what political opinions God holds. Ac-
cording to Henley, God is a Liberal, with
an English Tory's love of a lord, and hatred
of labor principles. He states that ever
since the New South Wales Labor Govern-
ment evicted Lord Denman from Sydney
Government House, it has met with one dis-
aster after another, which he claims have
been inflicted by the Almighty.

Five of the cadets who entered the Royal
Military College at Duntroon, about a year
ago, have been informed that their presence
will not be required when studies are resum-
ed next year. Neither the names of the boys
nor the reason for their discharge have been
disclosed, but the Minister for Defence has
pointed out that in certain circumstances the
Department had the right to discharge stu-
dents if it should be considered that the
youths were not likely to make good officers.
Anti-militarist literature is said to be doing
a lot of harm to the military interest amongst
the cadets. We would like any of the dis-
charged cadets to give us a reason.

News comes from the "Negro Republic"
of Liberia that in a strike many negro em-
ployees have been killed by the authorities.
No doubt the employers were the authorities,
and probably some of them were black, and
some white, both white and black employ-
ers would act the murderer's part against
the employees. In spite of the superficial
differences of color, race, or creed, there are
but two classes in the world to-day—the Ca-
pitalist class and the Working class, the Em-
ployer and the Employee.

The operators of the mills and workshops
of St. Petersburg struck recently as a pro-
test against the death sentence imposed by
the Government on the Black Sea warship
"mutineers." The attempt to crush the re-
bellious spirit in one quarter thus causes
it to break out in another. This must cause
the heart of Despotism to beat faster with
fear, and the arm of tyranny to fall limp and
powerless for permanent oppression. When
will the Czar realise that the indomitable
spirit of the Russian workers is unconquer-
able? Scarcely a foot of Russian soil but
has been watered by the blood of the
working class, and yet the fire of revolt is
not extinguished.

A 13-year-old girl pupil at the Franklin
Grammar School, of Salt Lake City, Lena
Eyler, described by her principal, F. N.
Poulson, as a "wonderfully bright, and re-
markably precocious child," has been sus-
pended from school by the superintendent
until she is willing to conform to the school
discipline, which requires the children to sa-
lute the American flag by reciting aloud:
"I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the
republic for which it stands; one nation in-
divisible, with liberty and justice for all."
The girl refused to join the salute exercises,
stating, according to a Salt Lake City "Ev-
ening Telegram" of November 2, "I owe
nothing to the American flag. It no longer
stands for the noble principles in which it
was conceived. If I must salute a flag, it
will be the red flag of Socialism, because I
think it stands more truly for liberty and
justice than the Stars and Stripes." We
take our hat off to little Lena, and salute
her.

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Voting for Socialism is not Socialism any more than a menu is a meal. Socialism must be organised, drilled, and equipped, and the place to begin is in the industries where the workers are employed.

—Debs.

The New Year.

Work for 1913.

Workers' Eccentricities can only be corrected by the dissemination of sound views on economics, politics, and sociology.

With this issue we commence a New Year. The year just passed has been one of stress and struggle for us, but the history of the Socialist movement is made up of such struggles as this paper has been through for the last year. Movements, like individuals, perform their various functions in the evolution of society, and being but the reflections and effects of hereditary and environment, they in their turn pass by, leaving effects that bear witness to their particular operations.

Surveying the work of 1912, we have some reason to be pleased with what has been accomplished, though perhaps the sum total may fall somewhat short of what could be desired. The effects of our work may not be discernible by the casual observer, but those who watch the movements with expert eyes will see that steady progress has been made in educating and organising the workers towards the social revolution.

In the columns of this paper, views and doctrines are set forth by men and women, separated by vast distances, who betray an extraordinarily clear insight into the foundations and workings of human society, an insight far beyond the grasp of the great majority, who are only casual readers, content to allow others to do their thinking for them. Their work has been a labor of love, and, like all work that is inspired and warmed by the fire of a great truth, it has been effective—humbug has been exposed, sham pilloried, and the evils of Capitalism explained and their remedy advocated.

The old political parties have felt the effects of our work. The Liberals have been compelled to defend themselves against the growth of Socialism. They have been driven to misrepresent it, to lie about it, and to discredit it by pointing to every wrong act of their political enemy—the Labor Party—as the work of Socialists. The Labor Party—really a middle-class or small capitalist party—realising the rapid growth of the Socialist movement, has accepted with pride the name flung at it by Liberals as a taunt, and has endeavored to induce the workers to believe that what it aims at is Socialism. Both parties, by their actions, testify to the growth of Socialism. The one is afraid of it; the other would hide its shortcomings, its acts of omission and commission, behind it.

Our work has been to expose both impartially; to show that there is no fundamental difference in their political principles; and the detentions from their ranks, the criticisms levelled at them by the workers in the unions, in the press, and on public platforms, have shown that the work for Socialism has been done efficiently and well.

Armed with a thorough knowledge of economic determinism, and the materialistic conception of history, and understanding what value and the class struggle mean, our writers and speakers have been able to play havoc with the false theories of the old parties. They have driven them from point to point, and have lifted the mental battle to a higher plane. The old gags about Protection and Free-trade, land reform, preference to unionists, and compulsory arbitration have been rendered almost useless, and in their place an inquiry into the whole system of capitalist production has been instituted.

During 1913 this work must be pressed forward. We must bring home to the workers the truth that Capitalist production is based upon the exploitation of the wealth producers: that Capitalist ownership of the means of production is the key to the process. We must show that with control of the means of production, the capitalists are in control of the whole industrial process, and the product thereof. The truth must be brought home to the workers that the industrial processes of the day reduce them to the level of ownership of a single commodity, their labor power, which they are forced

to sell to the Capitalists, in order to obtain the food, clothing, and shelter necessary to their existence, and which leave in the hands of the Capitalists whatever wealth the workers may be able to produce in excess of the amount represented by what they have received for their commodity-labor power.

A great mass of working-class voters rush first in one direction and then in another, looking for relief, and searching for truth. This is not surprising so long as they lack a knowledge of fundamental principles, and the cause of their economic ills. Their eccentricities can only be corrected by the dissemination of sound economic truth, and the dissemination is the work of Socialists. The workers of all lands have been kept wandering in a political and economic wilderness by the teachings of those who have been hired to defend the interests of the class which lives and thrives by sucking the blood of labor. They have been industriously and persistently taught an economic and political doctrine that favored the interests of industrial tyrants, and commercial brigands: a doctrine which deals out death and destruction to working-class interests.

Our work for 1913 is to correct this error, to expose this teaching. That an ever-increasing number of workers are becoming sufficiently enlightened to be proof against it is encouraging. Let us set about increasing their number. Let us work until labor has broken the age-long shackles of slavery, and come into possession of its own—the "earth and the fullness thereof." Work to that end during the coming year.

PITY THE RICH.

"Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl, for your miseries, that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted and your garments moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered (i.e., unused and uninvested), and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and eat your flesh, as if it were a fire. Ye have heaped treasures together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the laborers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth resist you."—James.

We cannot help pitying the poor devils. They cannot keep the system going, and their downfall is looming over them like a dark thundercloud. Markets are failing them, international solidarity and class-consciousness are growing amongst those whose hire has been "kept back by fraud." Their "riches are corrupted," and their "gold and silver" is becoming harder and harder to invest. They have had a good time, and have "heaped treasure together for the last days" of servitude and wage-slavery, but a time is coming when treasure in the shape of money will "rust" and become useless. Governments are already talking of confiscating their lands and applying them to public uses, and the guarded treasures of kings, millionaires, and priests—the richest the world has ever known, are causing their owners an anxious time. The profit system is a large concentrating machine. By its means the vast treasures of the rich are being gathered into fewer and fewer hands. When it is completely condensed into the hands of one or two, then the end will come, the dispossessed will demand its socialisation. It is a dreadful prospect for the rich who have never worked, and they will doubtless "weep and howl" for their miseries. At present they are charged with the duty of finding employment for all the people. This is an impossible task—the machine prevents it. The job gets bigger every day. The profits of the rich are pouring in upon them so rapidly that they cannot find investments for them. The Goulds, the Vanderbilts, and Morgans cannot cope with the flow of wealth, and are losing prestige. The avenues of investment are being trustified, and concentrated into fewer hands; yet the capitalist is compelled to seek a place for his money. It is the only thing he can do under the system, and the system is breaking down. His riches are rusting, and "the rust of them shall be a witness" against them, and eat their flesh "as if it were a fire."

STUDY YOUR JOB.

Unless you own your own home, free from any mans claim; unless you are receiving an equivalent of £2 per day for useful work; unless your children are properly fed, clothed, and educated, and the old folks provided for; unless you are healthy and enjoying life with a certainty that your future is assured, you are being robbed of your rights. There is enough in our days for all—for every man, woman, and child upon earth. If you are not getting your share, someone else is getting more than they are entitled to. You would be mad if someone stole your purse with your week's wages in it, but you take it very quietly when someone takes three-fourths of your natural reward from you. It wouldn't take you long to find out and punish the robber if you would only take the trouble to look into the matter.

Nine Hours Working Day.

Crafty Labor Politicians.

How a Labor Government Appeases Angry Miners. Sham Legislation passed by Assembly and killed by Council. Labor Nominees absent.

(By F.J.R.)

In the coal-mining industry of the State there are about 12,000 men and youths employed. The wheelers, who are mostly youths, work 9 hours a day. In other classes of coal-mine work, the recognised hours of labor are 9 per day.

These men have for years been working with a view of placing on the Statute book a legal eight-hour working day for all coal-mine workers. For years they have, with this end in view, directed all their efforts on the political field, until, to-day, they have the satisfaction of seeing all the chief coal-centres captured by their representatives, one of which, who is a practical coal-miner, is the Minister for Mines in the present Labor Government.

The miners waited patiently for an eight-hour Bill to be brought before the House. No bill was forthcoming: they began to utter murmurs of discontent with the present Government. The leaders of the men always came to the rescue with that well-worn phrase, "Give 'em a chance." These murmurs finally broke out in an angry outburst at an Eight Hour banquet held recently in Newcastle. At this banquet representatives of the miners said all sorts of nasty things about the Government breaking faith with the workers. They wanted to know why a legal eight-hour day had not been placed on the Statute book for coal-mine workers?

The Government was perturbed. The question for them to settle was: How were they to appease these angry miners? How were they to prove that they were their only saviours?

"Cross kid" was the only way out of the difficulty. A bill was hastily brought before the Legislative Assembly, giving the miners their demands. The crafty politicians knew this was only "cross kid." They knew that the bill would go through the Lower House flying, but that it would be blocked in its initial stage in the Upper House.

This, of course, is what happened; the bill was contemptuously thrown out of the Upper House, but the object of the Government had been gained. No one can say that the Government didn't do its duty towards the mine workers. They did their duty and did it well; so well, in fact, that they never troubled to cover up their cloven foot-prints. For the question arises: Where were the four men appointed to the Upper House by the Labor Government when this bill was going through this House? Not one of them voted on the question. Not one of them put forward a vigorous defence of the miners' eight-hour bill. They were conspicuous by their absence when the division was called on this bill. Nothing was done by them to advance the miners' claims at all. The political fraternity knew full well what the fate of this bill was to be. All they wished to do was to throw dirt in the eyes of the miners, each of whom have a vote. They wanted to regain the confidence that they felt was slipping from them.

When the next elections come round, miners would do well to ask the Government's supporters: Where were the four nominees the Government placed into power for life when this bill was going through? Where was Sir Allen Taylor, the employer of labor, the capitalist, when this bill was going through? Why did he not support the Government in their action to gain better conditions for the miners. Where was Farrer, that "militant" trades-unionist secretary? Where was Holden, the "premier barber" of the State? Where was that friend of the working-man, Joynton Smith? Where were these Government nominees when such a momentous bill was before the House?

"Cross kid" is alright sometimes, but even the dullest sometimes take a tumble to it, and when they do, well the trickster Labor politician will find his right place. At this stage the Socialist educator must step in. Thousands of workers are daily being disillusioned: many are slipping back into the ranks of the Liberals, disgusted. The work of the Socialist is to teach the workers that to rely solely upon the ballot box to further the working-class claims, can only end disastrously. The workers must be taught that nothing has ever been given by Parliament. Everything Parliament does is backed up by economic might. It is always either capitalistic might or working-class might. Capitalist might is entrenched in the ownership of the tools of production. Working-class might is entrenched in the labor power necessary to work the tool of production. This is where the fight takes place: not in Parliament, as so many foolish Laborites imagine. Parliament only reflects the organised might of these two classes. Therefore it is the Socialist's duty to step in and carry on that great educational work that has been lost sight of for the past decade in the vote mania.

But Bess, on flowers alighting, cease their hum;

So, settling upon places, Whigs grow dumb.

—Moore.

From Feudalism to Capitalism.

Peasantry Driven from the Land.

Capital comes into the world dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt.

The prelude of the revolution that laid the foundation of the capitalist mode of production was played in the last third of the 15th and the first decade of the 16th century. A mass of free proletarians was hurled on the labor market by the breaking up of the bands of feudal retainers, who everywhere uselessly filled house and castle. Although the royal power, itself a product of bourgeois development, in its strife after absolute sovereignty forcibly hastened on the dissolution of these bands of retainers, it was by no means the sole cause of it.

In insolent conflict with king and Parliament, the great feudal lords created an incomparably larger proletariat by the forcible driving of the peasantry from the land, to which the latter had the same feudal right as the lord himself, and by the usurpation of the common lands.

The rapid rise of the Flemish wool manufactures, and the corresponding rise in the price of wool in England, gave the direct impulse to these evictions. The old nobility had been devoured by the great feudal wars. The new nobility was the child of its time, for which money was the power of all powers. Transformation of arable land into sheep walks was, therefore, its cry.

The dwellings of the peasants and the cottages of the labourers were razed to the ground or doomed to decay. What the capital system demanded was, on the one hand, a degraded and almost servile condition of the people, the transformation of them into mercenaries and of their means of labor into capital.

The whole series of thefts, outrages, and popular misery that accompanied the forcible expropriation of the people, from the last third of the 15th to the end of the 18th century lead him (the political economist) to the comfortable conclusion: "The due proportion between arable land and pasture had to be established. During the whole of the 14th and the greater part of the 15th century, there was one acre of pasture to 2, 3, and even 4, of arable land. About the middle of the 16th century the proportion was changed to 2 acres of pasture to 2 arable, later on 2 acres of pasture to one of arable, until at last the just proportion of 3 acres of pasture to 1 of arable was attained."

In the 19th century, the very memory of the connection between the agricultural laborer and the communal property had, of course, vanished. To say nothing of the more recent times, have the agricultural population received a farthing of compensation for the 3,511,770 acres of common land which between 1801 and 1831 were stolen from them by Parliamentary devices presented to the landlords by the landlords?

The last process of wholesale expropriation of the agricultural population from the soil is, finally, the so-called clearing of estates, i.e., the sweeping men off them.

In the 18th century the hunted-out Gaels were forbidden to emigrate from the country, with a view to driving them by force to Glasgow and other manufacturing towns. The Duchess of Sutherland resolved, on entering upon her government, to effect a radical cure, and to turn the whole country, whose population had already been, by earlier processes of a like kind, reduced to 15,000, into a sheep-walk.

From 1814 to 1820 these 15,000 inhabitants were systematically hunted and rooted out. All their villages were destroyed and burnt, all their fields turned into pasturage. British soldiers enforced this eviction, and came to blows with the inhabitants. This fine lady appropriated 794,000 acres of land that had from time immemorial belonged to the clan.

In 1835 the 15,000 Gaels were already replaced by 131,000 sheep. But, finally, part of the sheep walks are turned into deer parks. Everyone knows there are no real forests in England. The deer in the parks of the great are demurely domestic cattle, fat as London Aldermen. Scotland is therefore the last refuge of the "noble passion." Capital comes into the world dripping from head to foot, from every pore, with blood and dirt."—Marx.

CAPITALIST LOGIC.

Senator Pearce constantly repeats the old wheeze that "to preserve peace we must be prepared for war," and the graphomaniacs of the press publish the hoary freak every time he utters it, as though it were a discovery of much greater importance than Darwin, Marx, or Newton made. This contention that the armies and navies of the world act as a preventive of war, is saying that if there were no armies and navies there would be one continual fight on the land between soldiers that did not exist, and on the water, between navies that were not afloat.

Mischief-Makers by Trade.

Armament Manufacturers' Prey.

The great Firms of Armament Manufacturers inevitably regard the people as their natural prey. War Panics, and Civil Service corruption.

The great firms of armament manufacturers inevitably regard the taxpayer as their natural prey, and war panics as the drug by taking which the prey is to be delivered into their hands. Mischief-makers they are by trade. That much we know, but that they are coming into intimate and undesirable connection with those who have traded with them on behalf of the nation is not so well-known. The firms are adopting the policy of offering remunerative and honorable, but easy posts to men high in our Civil and Military Service on their retirement, at or in advance of their retiring age. Men who are in the secrets of the Government, who know the exact requirements and the exact idiosyncrasies of those who buy for the nation have of late years been induced by tempting offers either to resign their Government posts and enter the service of the armament firms at higher salaries, or to accept them on retirement. Now, we find that two of the very highest of our officials, whose business it ought to have been, and doubtless has been, to check the commercial zeal of Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co., to cut down their prices, to economise on the public behalf against them, have accepted posts on the directorate of that firm, to be held along with their Government positions. One, till recently, Naval Secretary of the Defence Committee, must know all the private matters of our navy. Another civilian, as permanent Secretary of the Treasury was at the head of the department which controls expenditure. It is presumed that these men will have value in their new directorships, derived from their special knowledge of who has to be persuaded, of where there is most chance of placing an order, and what are our Government's ideas of price. There must be many other private matters, including intimate knowledge of our relationships with foreign powers. The firm has works abroad in Italy, and builds ships for any power, competitor or ally, as it may happen, of Great Britain. On the assumption that everything will be done in the most straightforward way, there is a great danger to the State in this confusion between the duty which such men owe to the nation which has pensioned them, and to the firm which has found it to their interests to employ them as its skilled guides. There is no end to the subtlety and permeating power of wealth and social intimacy. It should never be possible for it to be to the interest of a civil servant in a responsible position to be personally friendly with firms like Armstrongs or to have any reason for cultivating their friendship in anticipation of possible posts in their service hereafter.

—J. W. Graham.

Victimisation.

Sir Allen Taylor, lately nominated to the Legislative Council by a Labor Government, has employed at the Suspension Bridge, North Sydney, 30 laborers. Two of these only were unionists. They belonged to the U.L.U. They made representations to two of the organisers to pay a visit to the job in the interests of the union. The organisers went. They enrolled all the men. Whilst they were on the job the foreman asked them who they were and what their business was. Their reply was: "Union officials, and business was to enrol unionists." The foreman asked how many were enrolled. The organisers replied, "Twenty-eight." The foreman replied, "That leaves two not in the union." "Oh, no," the organisers replied, "those two men are in the union," and foolishly added, "it was those two men who asked us to come across." The foreman then politely asked, "Who were these two men?" The organisers were again foolish enough to give the names. The result was at five minutes to five that evening, the two unionists received their time.

At a subsequent meeting of the U.L.U. this matter came up for discussion. The only remedy that a body representing 5000 men, could suggest, was to interview Sir Allen Taylor on behalf of these victimised unionists, both of whom are married men.

Truly, of this transaction the union should feel proud. The net gain of 28 "good" paying unionists, the majority of whom have since stated that they don't intend to pay another penny into the union. The loss was the sacrifice of two men, who could not tolerate working alongside of non-union men.

And the union has no other remedy than to crawl, cap in hand, to the hand that is lashing them with the lash of victimisation.

5.12.12.

—F.J.B.

King Manuel in a New Role.

Manuel, ex-King of Portugal, according to a St. Petersburg journal, intends to open a fashionable hotel in southern Crimea. As a barman Manuel should draw well. If he could only engage the Kaiser and King George as assistants success would be certain.

Historical Materialism.

The Basis of all Social Structure.

The causes of all social changes and revolution are to be sought not in men's brains, but in the economics of each particular epoch.

The materialist conception of history starts from the proposition that the production of the means to support human life and, next to production, the exchange of the things produced, is the basis of all social structure; that in every society that has appeared in history, the manner in which wealth is distributed and society divided into classes or orders, is dependent upon what is produced, how it is produced, and how the products are exchanged. From this point of view the final causes of all social changes and political revolution are to be sought, not in men's brains, nor in man's better insight into eternal truth and justice, but in the changes in the modes of production and exchange. They are to be sought not in the philosophy, but in the economics of each particular epoch. The growing perception that existing social institutions are unreasonable and unjust, that reason has become unreason, and right wrong, is only proof that in the modes of production and exchange changes have silently taken place with which the social order, adapted to earlier economic conditions, is no longer in keeping. From this it also follows that the means of getting rid of the incongruities that have been brought to light must also be present, in a more or less developed condition, within the changed modes of production. These means are not to be invented by deduction from fundamental principles, but are to be found in the stubborn facts of the existing system of production.

FREDERICK ENGELS.

Waihi after the Struggle.

Just a few lines to let you know that I am in the land of the living, and free once more that is under existing conditions—free to ask someone else the right to live. You will have, no doubt, by this time, known that we have had a defeat, or rather a reverse for the time being, but I think that this Waihi trouble will be the making of the Labor movement in New Zealand. It has given the apathetic worker something to think about, when men and women can be hunted out of their house and home by a mob of scabs, backed by the forces of law and order, to wit, the police. One thinks that we are in Russia, instead of what is called, "God's Own Country." The scab union holds the key to the position at present, and, personally, I think that they have the companies under the whip, because the scab organisation knows too much about some of the things done by them. This week there will be about 200 of our most militant men hunted out of here on account of victimisation, but do the master-class think this is going to break the men's spirits. Just fancy, 200 missionaries for the cause of industrial unionism and revolutionary Socialism. These men scattered to the four winds of Australasia, will do a tremendous amount of good for the uplifting of the working class. Myself, at present, I do not know what I will get at, or go to. You have to pass the test of the scab organisation, although you may get work off the company. If individual members have a set on you, you are not allowed to join it. May they rub it in for all they are worth, is all I can say about it: it will make some of the wage mules think. Harry Holland is with us at present, on the inquest case of our murdered comrade, Evans, but the jury is well picked out. Not a miner on it, only shopkeepers, share brokers, insurance agents, so I don't expect much from that class of individuals. All the lads were somewhat light after their experiences in jail. Just fancy 20 hours' confinement, in separate cells, a day, 4 hours' exercise on 20 ounces of bread, 8 ounces, potatoes, 6 ounces meat (raw), 2 ounces vegetables. Supposed to get them, but I never saw them, and a pannikin of black tea night and morning, all because they were frightened we might do something—not that we did do it.

The position is ridiculous in the extreme, and just goes to show the workers what the master class will do if they are pushed. I fell away a stone in the nine weeks; some fell away up to two stone, and no wonder, on the food. They refused to let us work: they wanted to starve us to submission.

You are, no doubt, aware we have retaken the hall back again. We had a farewell social last night. Comrades Parry, Melrose, and McLennan spoke, also Com. Mrs. Leach. It would have done your eyesight good to have seen the good spirit that prevailed, and the determination shown in people's faces to still combat the one common enemy of the working class—Capitalism.

Well, I think that is all at present. I am very busy on the committee, fixing the people that are going away. The boat that fetches this over will have half-a-dozen families from Waihi, and you may see some of them, so good-bye for the present. With best wishes to all in the fight over there.

Yours for Economic Freedom,
(Sec. Socialist Party, Waihi.) E. DYE.
Waihi, December 10, 1912.

The Fight for Free Speech.

Propaganda under Difficulties.

The Police, under Labor Government, becoming active and aggressive. Authorities don't like Socialist criticism.

The meeting held at Wollongong on Saturday evening, December 21, was responsible for bringing to light some remarkable incidents of police ignorance, bluff, and spite.

Whilst Com. Denford was speaking, Police Inspector Blackburn approached and ordered him to stop, which Denford refused to do. This so annoyed the inspector that he caught hold of the stump, and threw it into the middle of the street. The explanation the inspector offered for this gross insult was that he was not going to allow Socialist rubbish to lie in the street.

This sudden and rather hasty action of the police inspector surprised the majority of people who were looking on, and they remarked that they fully expected to see him strike the speaker with a cane which he was carrying, as they reckoned he had completely lost his temper. Com. Denford, on questioning the police inspector on his action, was told that he would be removed in a like manner. This did not deter him from speaking till he was hoarse. Com. Brown took up the position, and started to give the crowd one of those electrical speeches that are brought out by the pent up spirit of revolt. It was a treat to hear Com. Brown showing the listening group of working men the meaning of free speech, and how it had been won. But Com. Brown was not permitted to finish his speech without police interruption: he was approached by the police sergeant and another individual in plain clothes, who ordered him to discontinue committing a nuisance in the street. This was a remarkable thing to say: Com. Brown asked who was the individual, and he was told that he was the nuisance inspector. Brown continued his interrogation, and asked what nuisance he was committing? The inspector informed him that he considered speaking in the street was a nuisance. Just fancy, ye gods of democracy! Street speaking considered a nuisance, and placed on a par with all other nuisances, such as throwing waste paper in the streets, obnoxious smells, insanitary dwellings, etc. The speakers were told before the police departed that they would receive another summons. In spite of police interference, and threats of passing the night in jail, Com. Brown finished the most remarkable meeting that has been held in the Illawarra district for some considerable time.

In conclusion, I want to tell comrades that a free speech fight is on, and has every indication of being the most stubborn and bitter fight that has been waged in New South Wales.

Yours for Revolt.

B. JONES.

Since the above was received Comrades Denford and Brown were tried at Wollongong, fined, and on refusing to pay, duly imprisoned in Wollongong jail for twenty-four hours. The information was laid by the Council's Inspector and the Aldermen at a subsequent meeting endorsed his action. The old property owners of the Council, the southern mine managers and shareholders, and the Labor government seem to be awake to the gravity of the situation. Socialism is growing all too rapidly for the stability of existing forms of exploitation and the interests must be protected. The workers in the Wollongong district will no doubt fully appreciate the motives of those who would keep a knowledge of Socialism from them. If they would only be content to attend religious meetings where contentment with present conditions and rewards after they are dead are preached, they might bawl and sing and play brass instruments in unknown keys until they were exhausted, and no one would think of prosecuting them for obstructing the traffic or committing a nuisance. The absurdity of making the Inspector of Nuisances the guardian of thought and censor of public meetings will soon strike the workers of Wollongong and rouse them to demand the right of free speech for Socialists.

The Sydney Police have also been industrious in interfering with revolutionary speakers. On Dec. 20, Tom Glynn, of the I. W. W., was arrested and charged with "offensive behavior." He was remanded for a few days, and when the case subsequently came before the court, a policeman said he heard him say in an address at Darlinghurst, "Your King is a bald-headed, knock-kneed parasite," also that the police were "only parasites on the backs of the public." The police were horrified, the prosecuting sergeant, who was very bald himself, being particularly wild. They had heard the King abused before, but to call him a "bald-headed, knock-kneed parasite," in face of the beautiful chromolitho' portraits of him to be seen in many shop windows, was surely outrageous. In their indignation and excitement they charged him wrongly, and "Gent One" took the fatal point that a little language did not constitute "offensive behavior." The loyal Sergeant wanted to alter the charge, but the beak refused to allow him, and discharged

GREEK SOCIALIST PARTY.

14 Park Square, London, N.W.
23rd October, 1912.

Dear Comrades,—Pseudo-Socialists, victimising the workers, and playing into the hands of the Capitalists, have become very active in throwing dust into the eyes of Greece. And now, on the occasion of the War, they are bent on deceiving Europe by falsifying the genuine Socialist opinion in Greece.

I am empowered, therefore, by the Directing Committee of the Greek Socialist Party, 40 Rue Piree, Athens, to request you to ignore all circulars, appeals, information, statistics, etc., emanating from sources other than: "La Ligue des Travailleurs de la Grèce, 40 Rue Piree, Athens," the London office of which is at 14 Park Square, London, N.W.

Genuine Greek Socialists are unanimous with their comrades in Bulgaria, Turkey, Servia, etc., in considering that the War will be detrimental to the Balkan working-classes, and that it has been undertaken in the interests of Balkan and European Capitalism and political ambition exploiting the noble impulses and self-sacrifice of the peoples of Eastern Europe.

With fraternal greetings,

FELICIA R. SCATCHERD,

Vice-President of the Greek Socialist Party.

THE WORKERS' CLAIM.

I have looked at this claim by the light of history, and my own conscience, and it seems to me, so looked at, to be a most just claim and that resistance to it means nothing short of denial of the hope of civilisation.

This, then, is the claim:—

It is right and necessary that all men should have work to do, which shall be worth doing, and be of itself pleasant to do; and which should be done under such conditions as would make it neither over-wearisome nor over-anxious.

Turn that claim about as I may, think of it as long as I can, I cannot find that it is an exorbitant claim: yet again I say if society would, or could admit it, the face of the world would be changed: discontent and strife and dishonesty would be ended. To feel that we are doing work useful to others and pleasant to ourselves, and that such work and its due reward could not fail us! What serious harm could happen to us! And the price to be paid for so making the world happy is revolution.

WILLIAM MORRIS.

THE CROSS.

(From White's "Call of the Carpenter.")

The cross was for slaves and outcast criminals. They put Jesus on the cross that the proletariat might see themselves degraded and reduced to their "proper" sphere.

During his boyhood Jesus had seen the entire population of Sepphoris, a town near Nazareth, sold into slavery; and less than 40 years after, they carried away into slavery 100,000 more. Jesus said he came to preach deliverance to the slaves.

Camille Desmoulins called Jesus "the good Sansculotte." The French Communists put the picture of the Wage-Earner of Galilee in their halls with the words underneath: "The first representative of the people."

Six thousand crosses with a slave spiked to each, along the roadside, marked the victory of Rome over the slave insurrection under Spartacus. On every private estate a cross or two was found in the tool shed. Masters could crucify their slaves at will; and it was not uncommon to crucify one for a pretended rebellion, to strike terror and submission into the rest. Insurgency in the state was punished by crucifixion. When Jesus told his would-be disciples that if they would follow him they must take up their cross, he meant a real cross of wood, to forewarn them of the dangerous nature of the movement.

the accused with regret remarking that he was a man who "deserved to be punished. The sergeant promised to bring a charge of lese majeste against Glynn later on.

On Dec. 27, the Sydney police took the names of Whitmore, Glecher, and Gordon, of the A.S.P., at the Bathurst st. meeting. A religious meeting, with a band and other paraphernalia, including acetelyne gas lights, generator, and other things supposed to be pleasing to the Almighty and peculiarly popular with ruling exploiters, was in full swing a few yards away, but the police did not see it. They could only see the Socialist meeting, and told the speakers that they could not bring a little stool into the street to speak from, as it was against the law to place obstructions on the streets. Under this law, religious harmoniums, brass instruments, and other noise-making and nerve-racking means of torturing sinners are not obstructions, and so long as you preach the "blessed word" and avoid common-sense you are alright. When you persist in preaching the rights of the workers you become a nuisance and your stool becomes an obstruction.

Coff's Harbor: Its Destiny

BY JAMES DODD.

How can one picture a place in print when it has such beauty spots like Boambe Beach and the Red Hill, when the people are so contented; industrial troubles they have none; political changes don't trouble its sleep, and, above all, those horrid Socialist organisers are noticeable by their absence.

And yet Coff's citizens are depressed! Promised political bribes have been bestowed upon them, in the form of a breakwater and railway lines into the far-famed Dorriggo. But, like the "Flying Dutchman," have not been caught yet. The Solitary Island scandal is still ringing in their ears; they could not understand why the "Captain Cook" took 60 hours to come from Sydney, when it was only a 22-hour journey. Ominous clouds were banking up on the horizon; even the elements were against them; dissatisfaction was rife. Now is my chance, I said, and I, a poor lone Socialist, ventured out, not to force my opinions of social justice, but to listen to others.

Tucking my coat a little closer, I set out to be an eavesdropper; to listen to others talk; just to see if I could find a second Holman. I stood on the edge of the little town, and looked down the street. A glance down the street, and I recoiled. Was I laboring under an optical delusion? I saw a narrow street, with wooden buildings, lit with flickering gas jets; and was this the main street?

Yes, this is Coff's Harbour, the future city of the Northern Rivers. The place with a harbour second to Sydney (providing they get the political breakwater) where the railway lines will meet, and the home of the B.A.T. Co., and sawmill employees, who are that far advanced in the union world that they have no need to take out union tickets.

I entered the street and placed my aching back against a post, and listened. Some were against the Labor Party; it had to go, we can't have Socialists running the country. "And the Liberals want to be re-modelled," chipped in an old man, with the appearance of a "cow farmer." I tired of this stuff, and moved on to where a group of railway workers were having a street debate. I looked into a shop window for an excuse, and they were having a piece of the Sydney Socialists. The little "International Socialist" is on file at the reading room, and they had suddenly discovered that the Socialist was different to a Laborite; hence their street debate. I listened for a while, but I could not see the silent little paper in a tight corner, so I chipped in with, "Excuse me, you chaps, you are talking a lot about the Socialist and Labor groups; can you tell me the difference?"

A fool said, "Look the way the Socialists tried to bring us all out on strike because a few Socialists were sent to jail at Lithgow." I said, "Do you believe in union men being jailed?" and he said "Yes, when they attempt to take life." I then asked them why they did not jail the directors of Mount Lyell, when they did not attempt to, but actually took life. To this I got no reply, so I left them to their own school, and went my way.

No doubt, when Commander Hogan (beg pardon, Organiser Hogan) comes along, he will have a lot of questions to answer concerning the Australasian Socialist Party, and the little paper. Poor Hogan, what a time he has trying to tell them that Wages Boards are their only hope while the Socialists are telling them direct action.

But the New Year is in the "Womb," and when it sees the light, perhaps it will bring the dawn of Socialism in Australia. The Socialist child is healthy, and it will reach manhood, and who can say but that Coff's Harbour will have a strong army of workers in position in defence of their homes in 1913, against the attacks of Capitalism.

The good ship "Socialism" has a troubled ocean to sail, but she has weathered many a gale in the past, and, like the rolling waves, always finds a port. Workers of Australia she is in need of more recruits: will you join—remembering always that every recruit is another attack of "gout" for the owning class.

THEORY OF VALUE.

In reply to "Anabruti's" question re above, I would like to point out that his supposition in no way affects the theory of value. The exchange value of commodities may vary slightly in given localities at given times, but the average value of commodities taking capitalist production as a whole is determined by the socially necessary Labor time embodied in them. If it takes as much socially necessary Labor time to produce 10 bushels of wheat per acre in Australia as it takes to produce 35 bushels per acre in America, with the same machinery, when these products meet on the market the Australian product will be wiped out and the average value will not be affected. That average value is not a fixed quantity but variable, and is affected by variety of soil, improvements in machinery, and seasons, but however it may vary, on the whole the Marxian theory of value holds good. In short, whatever the value of commodities may be at any period, that value is determined by the socially necessary labor time embodied in them.—J.W.R.

"There is no page in the history of our nation so infamous as that which tells the details of the unbridled greed of these pioneers of modern commercialism, feeding on the misery and degradation of English children." John A. Hobson.

THE MACHINE.

A Canadian Government report states that a new milking machine has been invented, which will enable four men to do the work of 400. The machine is efficient in every detail, and will supersede thousands of dairy hands in the agricultural areas of all countries. Hardly a day passes but we hear of the invention of a machine to do something that hitherto has seemed impossible for machines to do. Only a short time ago a machine was perfected to do the work of cotton pickers, and it has almost succeeded in wiping the human cotton picker out of existence.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

The General Secretary wishes to hear from Comrades who will help to arrange propaganda meetings in centres outside of Sydney. If any Comrade can arrange meetings, the General Secretary will arrange to send speakers.

Address all communications to
H. L. DENFORD,
8 Stephen's Buildings, Windmill-St.
Millers Point, Sydney

A Welcome Greeting.

International Socialist Congress, Basel,
November 21, 1912.

Greetings to all Socialists from a marvelous Congress of 600 Socialist Delegates from every land against war.

D. B. MONTEFIORE.

Sydney.

The past week has been one of great activity. A series of good meetings were held in the streets during the week at which the police took a hand. The guardians of the peace of the ruling class have seemingly received instructions to countenance only religious meetings and to disband and break up any that criticise the exploiters and their two political parties. The State elections are drawing nigh and political vested interests have to be protected.

A splendid meeting was held in the domain on Sunday afternoon, when Whitmore, Jones, and Roche delivered addresses to a large and appreciative audience.

At Market and Park Streets large meetings were held on Sunday evening, at which Whitmore, Slade, Roche, Glecher, and Mandeno were the speakers. The various addresses were well received by large and appreciative audiences.

The services of a few literature sellers would be invaluable just now as the secretary and speakers are busy and overworked. The silent Socialist can make himself felt by circulating Socialist literature.

On Thursday evening Jan. 2, the Half-Yearly Meeting will be held at Queen's Hall Pitt-St. All financial members are urged to attend as there is important business to transact.

Westralia.

WESTRALIAN NOTES.

The past week has not been without result and excitement. The usual vigorous propaganda was carried on. I was billed to speak at the Institute on Sunday evening, but weather conditions being unfavorable to indoor meetings, we decided to go to the usual place at the street corner. "The War of the Classes" was expounded.

On the esplanade there was much excitement. The usual struggle for the crowd took place, and, if possible, it was keener than usual. An oratorical duel was held between Price, of the old party, and myself. At an appeal from our party, a large number moved away to a shade under the trees, which seemed to have a bad effect on the opposition orator's temper. He announced that he would see that I did not tell any lies, but he seemed more intent on seeing that I did not abuse the dear old Capitalist. What relation he is to the Capitalist is now open to consideration. "We were not here to abuse the Capitalist," and my friend seemed to have a mission to prevent me from exposing the murderous intentions of the Waihi stock-holders. The murder of Frederick Evans is nothing compared to vote-catching. The slaughter of Mt. Lyell miners, and the Titanic holocaust have all fled from the minds of our vote-catching opponents; but it is well that the tactics of such "Socialists" are being made known.

During the debate, Price, the first and foremost tugman of that heterogeneous army of the "Mills" profession, openly admitted to the audience that he would stand for the selection ballot in the interest of the Labor Party. He is strictly opposed to arbitration, and when I explained how he would have to vote for the jailing and starving of workers, the crowd smiled. He tried to show that I was inconsistent in taking

the Saddlers' case to court, but I explained that as the Saddlers were unable to pay me remuneration pay, I was willing to pay anyone to go to court, I went to court, and argued for a substantial reduction of hours. Using Socialist arguments in favor. The judge first attempted to turn me down on "insufficient evidence," but on asking my witnesses if they were satisfied, received a decided "No! no! no!" Judge Burnside then found that I was not the legal representative, and turned me down on that. A good deal of evidence could be produced to prove Judge Burnside's antipathy to me, and the questions I asked witnesses. "Dawnward" complimented me on what I had said in court, but the "Yellow press" rang with alarm at the impertinent manner of approaching such an august institution, flanked with all its untarnished rites, inherited from a far-distant past.

After I had finished with Price, Ben Jones essayed to answer some statements I made, but he was a long time before the crowd would hear him. When he got a hearing he said nothing. After much hesitation he accepted a challenge to debate, our side stipulating that he must be put forward by his party as their representative.

In the evening they gave their audience an intellectual treat. Mr. McDonald, Labor M.L.A., was the speaker, and he spent his time telling stories—a peculiar characteristic of politicians. Further down the street the class struggle was being explained.

The question is frequently asked, "Why are there two parties?" There is only one Socialist Party in W.A., the Perth Branch of the Australasian Socialist Party. The other is an organisation which exists for the sole purpose of preventing the revolutionary element from spreading its views and increasing its numbers. It works to help the politicians of the Labor Party to keep their seats. The politicians have captured it, and its paper, and the reward is to be "Parliamentary honors."

At a conference held some time ago, Monty O'Dowd said that the Party should not develop into an affair of mixed ideas, and should keep clear of the evil influences of Parliament, and compromise, as they always led to the ruin of all parties. Unfortunately the doctor drank his own medicine, and the result has been disastrous.

A. RUTHERFORD.

Melbourne Branch A.S.P.

Although a report of our branch activities has not appeared for the past three weeks, comrades in other parts must not imagine that, as a branch, we have gone out of existence, or become inactive, which would be as disastrous. As a matter of fact, numerically, we are stronger, and as regards propaganda, the usual meetings have been held, and good work done. The meetings at the party headquarters have also been well attended, those who spoke under our auspices being J. L. Sullivan (subject: Modern Poverty), C. Menzies (The Referenda), and Mrs. McDonald, on "The Inquisition." When the warm weather has gone, we anticipate an all-round advance.

The Saturday dances, which are our mainstay as far as the rent is concerned, also boast a good attendance, despite the warm spell, and the attractions of Luna Park, Port Melbourne beach, etc.

A list of speakers has also been arranged for the Sundays ahead, and comrades are asked to invite their friends and workmates to same.

Comrades are also requested to note that the next general meeting of the party will be held on the first Wednesday in January, also that on Wednesday, January 15th the half-yearly balance-sheet of the party will be presented, and election of officials take place. Make a note and attend.

J. R. WILSON, hon. sec.

Balmain.

A very good meeting was held at Rozelle on Saturday night, December 21, Comrade M. Moore in the chair. The chairman opened by telling the workers how politicians are fooling them, when one of the ignorant slaves made a rush at the chairman like a bull at a gate. The chairman made him feel sore. Sloan, Talbot, and Willis were the speakers.

A good meeting was also held at Balmain on Sunday evening, Comrade Pickup in the chair: Sloan and Talbot speakers.

A good meeting was held last Saturday night, Com. Pickup in the Chair, and Sloan and Talbot speakers. The speakers were bombarded with questions. A few drunks from the Lib-Lab. parties were in attendance, and as usual they made their presence felt.

On Sunday evening we held a good meeting at Balmain when Sloan and Talbot delivered addresses.

Leichhardt-Annandale.

On Sat. night Dec. 21, we held a splendid meeting when Quinton, Jones, and Riley delivered sterling addresses to a good audience.

A good meeting was held last Sat. night when Young, Jones, and Riley delivered addresses to an appreciative audience.

Next Sat. night, Jan. 1, a debate will be held between Mr. G. D. Stone and Comrade

Young. The subject for discussion will be "That Socialism is the only remedy for the

NEWTOWN.

An exceedingly good meeting was held at the Bridge on Saturday night, December 21, when Comrades Duffield, Slade, and Walsh expounded Socialist philosophy in an able and eloquent manner. The audience accorded our comrades a good hearing, but a few overtures of the Labor kidney could not resist the temptation to show their ignorance of economic questions. The meeting ended satisfactorily, with moderate sales of literature.—FORAN, Secretary.

Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged, £35 8s. 3d. Collected at Club Social 7s. 7d., Edwin Wilson, Port Kembla, 1s. C. Kanitz, Port Darwin, 2s. 8d., J. Syepanski, Victoria, 2s. J. T. Smith, John's River, 1s. "Ostrich" Cowra, 1s. J. H. Corbett 1s. C. Madgen, Qld. 7s. 6d., W.S., Ballarat, 1s. 6d. Total £37 12s. 6d.

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Amount previously acknowledged £25. C. F. Macnamara 1s. 4d. Total £25 1s. 4d.

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SATURDAY.

Rozelle—M. Moore, Griffin Talbot.
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SUNDAY.

Afternoon: Domain, Mandeno, Charr, Whitmore, Jones, Glecher, Roche.
Evening: Market St., Cudren, Glecher, Mandeno, Park St., Roche, Whitmore, Slade.
Balmain—C. Moore, Talbot, Nelson.
Newtown—Duffield, Walsh, Kilburn.

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The Half-Yearly Meeting of the above Club will be held on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 11 a.m. Business: Election of Officers, Balance Sheet, etc.

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Australasian Socialist Party.

Meetings of the above branch are held at Queen's Hall every alternate Thursday, at 7.45 p.m.

Propaganda meetings held every Saturday evening at corner of Bathurst and George Streets. Sunday afternoon, Domain, Sunday evening, Market and Park Streets at 7.30 p.m.

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